

Date: April 10, 2008

To: Central Lane Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Sonny Chickering, ODOT Area 5 Manager

Re: ODOT Monthly Update

Local Officials Participate in Governor's Visit to I-5/Beltline Flyover

Many thanks to Mayors Piercy and Leiken, Commissioner Green and LTD Board Member Mike Eyster for attending the Governor's visit on March 25th, and for their remarks in support of continued investments in the State and Local transportation system. Your participation, as well as that of State Representatives Nancy Nathanson and Terry Beyer, reinforced the importance of regional collaboration in creating and maintaining multiple modes of safe, efficient and environmentally friendly travel throughout our community. In his remarks, the Governor said he "intends to present a comprehensive transportation plan to the Legislature in 2009 that will be larger, greener and more strategic than anything we have ever done before with Oregon's transportation system."

West Eugene Parkway (WEP) Property Disposal Strategy Finalized

Following a personal tour of the former highway corridor on March 7th, Interim Region Manager Dee Jones has provided final direction regarding the disposition of ODOT properties. The resulting strategy for individual parcels is shown on the attached map.

There are significant differences between the final strategy and the draft plan shown to MPC in February of this year. Due to Ms. Jones familiarity with Legislative and ODOT policies regarding disposal of surplus properties, every parcel not specifically and immediately needed for current active projects, or maintenance of existing ODOT facilities, will be placed in surplus. As a result, only a few selected parcels will remain in ODOT ownership, and only until they have served the specific intended purpose.

The property disposal process is underway, and will continue through the end of this calendar year, depending on the level of interest from other qualified public agencies and the private sector.

Multimodal Tradeoffs Paper Available Online

At its February meeting, the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) received and reviewed a report entitled: "Multimodal Tradeoff Analysis," prepared by Cambridge Systematics Inc. for ODOT.

The report identifies the key question as “How can the State invest transportation dollars to obtain the best combination of immediate and longer-term benefits to users, regardless of modal system?” The report goes on to say “multimodal tradeoffs are about allocating limited resources to the projects or combinations of projects (programs) in a way that maximizes or optimizes their impact”. The report illustrates the complexity of the issue and suggests there are many more factors beyond dollar benefits/costs ratios that need to be considered in conducting a multimodal tradeoff analysis.

A copy of the report can be found at:

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Hwy/REGION2PD/Area5_Information.shtml